

D 101 MORRIS ABRAHAM COHEN

1936

M. S. EDWAN ALIAS SYDNEY MARK ALIAS

MYN COHAN, GOLDBERG. DR SUN YAT-SEN

4. 3. 36 GEN LI CHI-SEN, MARSHAL LI CHAI-SUM

SUN FO, CC. WU, WU HON MAN, NA TIT SHING

(WU TE CHEN), MRS BERNSTEIN, HU HAN-MIN

SIR A. CHAMBERLAIN, GEN. CHANG FA-KUAI,

FENG YU-HSIANG, CAP. JOHN BALL, A. H. TUCKER

M. WENTWORTH, C. R. ST, JOHN RICH, C. WHITELEY.

BROCKDORF,

D 101

101-1

13551

No. 101
4 3 36

THE SOUTHERN CHINA DAILY NEWS, MONDAY, MARCH 2, 1936

Interview with Gen. Cohen
That Chinese...

DENIAL IN COURT OF CONTRACT

Captain John Ball, a director of the Soley Arms Company, when he appeared Thursday gave evidence before the Army Commission, was a witness of the Old Bailey on February 7.

Alexander Herbert Tucker (40) and Kenneth Westworth (47) were charged with conspiracy to defraud, and trying to obtain £1,000 by false pretences from Commander Charles Selous St. John Rich, R.N. (retired).

Westworth was discharged at the conclusion of the case for the prosecution, the jury agreeing there was no case against him.

Captain Ball said that he interviewed Tucker last autumn in connection with arms for China, but nothing came of it. He never had a contract with his firm.

Captain Ball agreed that Tucker introduced him to a General Cohen.

The Common Sergeant (Mr. Cecil Whitley, K.C.): What was he a General in?

Captain Ball: The Chinese army.

Captain Ball said that at the time General Cohen, who had considerable influence in the army in Southern China, was in England.

An intermediary named Brochdorf had authority to act for his firm in issuing a licence to Tucker or General Cohen that if an order for arms were given, together with the necessary permit from the Chinese Government, they would supply the arms, provided the Board of Trade would issue the necessary export licence.

Nothing came of the interview with General Cohen.

Tucker gave evidence of his meeting with Mr. Brochdorf, who convinced him he was an agent for the Soley Arms Company. Brochdorf, he said, asked him to assist in the sale of arms, telling him there were big profits in such transactions.

He (Tucker) introduced General Cohen to Captain Ball, but he did not know whether anything would come of it.

Tucker denied that he introduced Cohen to the Chinese General in London. He said he had a brief meeting with General Cohen in London, but he did not know whether anything would come of it.

File
J.M.
4 MARCH 1936

[Handwritten signature]

THE SHANGHAI TIMES THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1939

SHANGHAI MUNDAY

101
22. 11. 29

time... of the
late... of the
Government
... to fly to
... city. Mr
... at the
... expected to
... few days

72/
M
21/11/29

Kear

a/p.e.i.
Information.

RESEARCH
21. 11. 29

H.R. 01

GENERAL COHEN IN CANTON NOW

Personal Bodyguard of the Late
Dr. Sun Yat-sen Revivits
City

Amongst the personages of interest who have recently arrived in Canton is General Maurice A. Cohen, who is closely connected with the Nationalist Government of China at Nanking, writes the Canton correspondent of the "Hongkong Telegraph." General Cohen was for a long time personal bodyguard of the late Dr. Sun Yat-sen. Since the death of Dr. Sun, he has been very closely connected with political movements in Canton and South China. Last year, he went to Paris and London with Mr. Hu Han-min and Mr. Sun Fo, and was received by Sir Austen Chamberlain and other important members of the British Government.

Returning to Canton at the end of last year, General Cohen remained here for about three months, until in March this year he was called north to Nanking and Peking in connection with the state burial of the late Dr. Sun Yat-sen. It is notable that General Cohen was the only foreigner who travelled from Peking to Nanking on Dr. Sun's funeral train.

Since that time, General Cohen has been closely connected with the Ministry of Finance of the Nationalist Government. He is on a visit to Canton on official business. Though he would not disclose the nature of his business, it is surmised that it has to do with the re-establishment on the Central Bank notes for the province of Kuangtung.

When questioned regarding the present situation of the Nationalist Government with regard to the rebellion of General Chang Fa-kuei and his Ironsides, General Cohen would only state that the matter was in entirely competent hands and that entire confidence reigned in Nanking. He further stated that General Chang Fa-kuei had no chance whatsoever of overthrowing the Central Government and that it was only a matter of a few weeks before the Ironsides would be completely wiped out. Furthermore, Nanking was absolutely confident that General Fong Yu-hsiang would not move against the Central Government in connection with General Chang Fa-kuei.

POLITICAL BRANCH
(FOREIGN SECTION)
DATE 17.10.29

H.R.

17.10.29

HONGKONG POLICE	
C. I. D. REGISTRY	
No. I. O. D. 101
Date.....	18. 3. 19

March 28th 9

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge, with thanks receipt of your letter No. C. I. D. 821/1923 of March 19 and enclosures in reference to M. S. Cowan, alias Sydney Mark and Morris Abraham Cohen respectively, and to inform you that the contents have been noted.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Acw.

Acting Director of Criminal Investigation.

Director of Criminal Investigation,

Police Headquarters,

HONGKONG

No. C.I.D. 821/1923.

NUMBER AND DATE SHOULD
BE QUOTED IN REFERENCE
TO THIS LETTER

Criminal Investigation Department,

POLICE HEADQUARTERS,

HONG KONG.

CONFIDENTIAL

19th March, 1929.

Sir,

Reference your letter No. I.O./D.IOI, dated the 13th Instant, I have the honour to inform you that M.S. COWAN, alias SYDNEY MARK (photograph attached) is not the same person as MORRIS ABRAHAM COHEN who left here for Shanghai on the S.S. Empress of Russia on the 6th Instant. M.S. COWAN, alias SYDNEY MARK has not come to notice here since my letter of the 16th July, 1917.

I forward herewith a copy of a Police report regarding MORRIS ABRAHAM COHEN, who is also the subject of your letter No. I.O. 4980 of the 15th March, 1923.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

M. Mordue
Director of Criminal Intelligence.

The Director of Criminal Investigation,
Shanghai Municipal Police,
Shanghai.

AC (Sol)
Eca
Copy Cross index & Sub.
photo on proper file also
Separate files
28/3
ack with thanks
Eca

MORRIS ABRAHAM COHEN.

Morris Abraham Cohen, 41, was born in London of Jewish parents on 3-8-1887. While he was still of school age, his family moved to Alberta, Canada. He now considers himself to be a Canadian and appears to be acquainted with a large number of politicians in that country. Reports received from Shanghai state that his career in Canada was marked by connections with professional gamblers and shady real estate business. He removed from Canada to the U.S.A. and spent several years in New York. It was in America that he first met the late Dr. SUN YAT SEN about the year 1910. Since then he has been closely connected with the activities of the Kuomintang political party in China.

Cohen was in Canada at the outbreak of the Great War, and there assisted in the organisation of the Chinese Labour Corps. He later proceeded to England and France with a railway battalion. After the war he returned to the U.S.A. and resumed his old relations with the Canadian branch of the Kuomintang. In 1923 he proceeded to Canton at the instance of the Kuomintang party in Alberta. On arrival in Canton he became the personal bodyguard to Dr. SUN YAT SEN. Since then he has visited the U.S.A. several times on Kuomintang business. His visits to U.S.A. were probably with the intention of collecting funds for the Kuomintang party, but H.B.M. Consul-General at Canton wrote in 1925 that he was of opinion that smuggling of Chinese into the North American Continent was probably Cohen's real aim.

When Dr. SUN YAT SEN died in March 1925, Cohen was unemployed for some time. In July 1925 he was acting as a sort of liason officer for the Commissioner of Police, Canton, and later made several trips to Shanghai and the North in connection with projects for extending the

Canton-Hankow Railway and for developing the Canton Harbour, under SUN FO (son of Dr. Sun Yat Sen) who was then Commissioner of Reconstruction. Since then he appears to have been liason officer for whatever party has been in power in Canton, and at the end of 1927 he was in Hong Kong purchasing army mules for General LI CHAI SUM.

He is known to have been in Russia, but the date of his visit is not known. Although he claims to be a patriotic Briton, his views are now entirely Chinese. According to a report received from Shanghai at the end of 1925 Cohen favours the abolition of Extraterritoriality, and points to the treatment of Russian and Germans as evidence that China is fit to assume judicial control over foreigners, and that he visited Peking in 1925 for the purpose of finding a formula to enable the governments of North and South China to co-operate in matters effecting foreigners.

He left Hong Kong for Colombo on the S.S. President Wilson on 28-1-28, together with SUN FO, C.C. WU, WU HON MAU and NG TIT SHING (WU TE CHEN), a party of Nationalist Government officials proceeding to Europe, at the expense of the Nanking Government, to study economic and political conditions.

On 6-3-28 he arrived in Capetown, South Africa, travelling on British passport No. 1/1927 issued by H.B.M. Consul-General at Canton, and stated he was visiting his sister Mrs. BERNSTEIN of Market Square, Salisbury, South Africa, and that he proposed to rejoin the Chinese officials at the Chinese Legation in London.

He returned to Hong Kong alone, via Saigon, on 28-8-28 and proceeded to Canton on the next day. In January 1929 he was appointed A.D.C. to the military headquarters at Canton, under Marshal LI CHAI SUM, and accompanied LI CHAI SUM to Shanghai on the S.S. Empress of Russia which left Hong Kong on 6-3-29.

19th March, 1929.

Extract from Hong Kong "Telegraph" of 16th January, 1929.

ANOTHER POST FOR Mr. M.A. COHEN.

A.D.C. TO CANTON MILITARY HEADQUARTERS.

Canton. Jan. 14.

"Mr. Morris A. Cohen has been officially appointed special A.D.C. to the Military Headquarters here. The appointment is signed by Marshal Li Chai-sum.

This appointment is in addition to his numerous other official duties. - Our Own Correspondent.

Mr. Cohen has held various appointments under the Canton Government, and he was for a time personal bodyguard to the late Dr. Sun Yat-sen.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
C. I. D. REGISTRY

Central I.D. Station
No. 40 D. 101
Date March 22nd, 1929

Subject (in full) "General" Morris A. Cohen.

Made by D. I. Robertson.

Forwarded by

J. L. Guiness A. S. Pol

General Morris A. Cohen, A.D.J. to General Li Chi Sen
left Shanghai for Hankow on the evening of March 19.

D. I. Robertson
D. I.

a/D.I.I.

hcy

Ref. No. 4/22.3.29.

Copies to H.B.M. Consul, Col. Halland, Capt. Shelley, & Lt. Carlson

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
C. I. D. REGISTRY
CHINA D. I. C. 101
Date.....
March 15, 1929

Subject (in full) "General" Morris A. Cohen.

Made by D. I. Robertson.

Forwarded by

J. H. Gwens A.B. Pol

General Morris A. Cohen, A.D.C. to General Li
Chi Sen arrived in Shanghai on March 8 from Canton and is
staying at the Astor House, Room No. 305.

H. Robertson
D. I.

See list
D.C.I. 16/3

Copies to H.B.M. Consul, Col. Halland, Capt. Shelley & Lt. Carlson.

✓ 16/3

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
C. I. D. REGISTRY
No. I. O. D. 101
Date 12.3.19

March 13th, 9

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your office letter dated July 16, 1917 a copy of which is attached, and to inform you that a man answering the description contained therein, and who is known as General Morris A. Cohen arrived in Shanghai on March 11 in company with General Li Chi Sen to whom he acts as A.D.C.

This man acted in the same capacity to the late Dr. Sun Yat Sen.

I shall be glad if you will kindly inform me whether this individual is the same person as referred to in the letter and also if you have any further information concerning his activities since that date.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

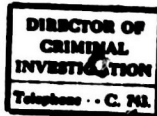
Lee

A/ Director of Criminal Investigation.

The Director of Criminal Investigation,

Police Headquarters,

Hongkong.

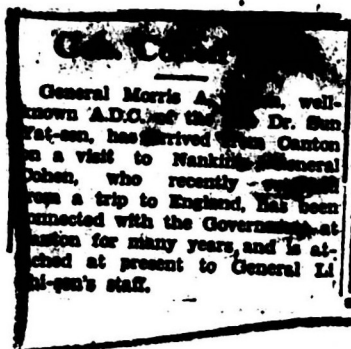


C.I.D. HEADQUARTERS.
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.

12. 3. 1929

A man answering
the description
is now acting as
body guard or a.
D.C. to Gen. Leckie
& also acted for
Mr. Van der Lin in
same capacity.

Let
ask Khong if he is the
same man (Confidential)



II

a. c. (Pol)

III.

H.R. 12 ³/₂₉

Foreign Section,

For enquiry and
report please. In case be
to have, it will be necessary
to notify the authorities.

19/3/29

Shanghai Municipal Police.

1327

1327
23/7/17

CENTRAL POLICE

Station.

23rd July,

1917.

REPORT ON M. S. Cowan and his wife.

Made by D. S. Givens.

Forwarded by

Sir,

Enquiries show that M. S. Cowan and his wife arrived here
by the S. S. Atsuta Maru on 19th inst. and are staying in the
Aster House.

ASH
23/7

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

D. S. Givens

Detective Sergeant.

Chief Detective Inspector.

Ref'd out
work
New
Mem ber.

NUMBER AND DATE SHOULD
BE QUOTED IN REFERENCE
TO THIS LETTER

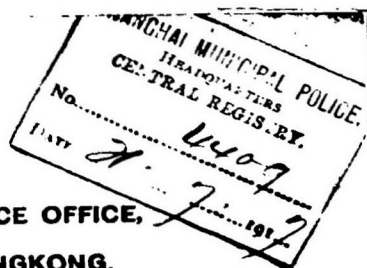
No.

G.



R.

POLICE OFFICE,
HONGKONG.



16th July, 1917.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that by the S.S. "Atsuta Maru" which leaves this Port today there are travelling a London Jew named M.S. Cowan alias Sydney Mark alias Ryn Cohan, and his wife. They arrived here on the 15th inst, a search of their baggage was made but nothing illicit was found.

The enclosure is a copy of a letter by the Chief Officer of Police, Singapore.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your obedient servant

Ch. Chuan

Capt. Supt. of Police.

C.O.I.

For information

R.H.
21/7

To-

The Captain Superintendent of Police,

SHANGHAI.

1327
23/7/17

Office of
Chief Police Officer,

No. 11-1917.

Singapore 9th July, 1917.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that a London Jew named M.S. Cowan alias Sydney Mark alias Myh Cohan who for some years past has resided in Singapore where for a time he followed the profession of a bookmaker and has latterly been running the "Galladium Cinema-Theatre" is proceeding to Japan ostensibly to act as advance Agent for an Illusionist named Goldstein who goes under the Stage name of Goldin but there is some reason to suspect that he has some other object in view though what the object is not known at present.

2. There are three convictions recorded against this man at Scotland Yard for larceny and receiving and fine as suspected person. His first conviction was in 1898, the last in 1904.

3. From England he seems to have gone to South Africa where it is said he received three months for theft, and 18 months for burglary but so far I have not been able to obtain any confirmation of this.

4. From South Africa he went to India where he received 6 mths for theft and 8 mths, for Highway Robbery. The last mentioned conviction was at Calcutta where he was also placed under Police Supervision.

5. Some years ago he managed by fraud or False Representation to get Rs 500, from a Frenchman living at Criterion Hotel Rangoon and made off with the money to Penang but he appears to have escaped punishment for this offence as a friend of his Mr. Tully, Tin-miner & bookmaker refunded the money to the Frenchman.

6. Cowan has recently been to South Africa, which country he visited with the express object of doing business in connection with the import of teak but it is said that he made use of his time to smuggle pearls with the assistance of his wife.

7. Cowan is about 41 years of age, his height is about 5' 4", stout build, fair hair, fair complexion, brown eyes, clean shaven.

Sgd-Chief Police Officer,
S I N G A P O R E.